

Claim Amendments

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings, and versions, of claims of the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A chewing gum comprising a gum base, which comprises:

at least one amorphous polyester containing as repeating units in condensed form of

- a) at least one aromatic dicarboxylic acid,
- b) at least one aliphatic dicarboxylic acid, and
- c) at least one aliphatic diol which has at least one branching point, a saturated cyclic partial structure and/or at least one ether group,

wherein the molar ratio of a) to b) is from 1:4 to 2:1[[:]],

the chewing gum further comprising at least one sweetener and at least one flavoring agent.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 11, wherein the glass transition temperature T_g of the polyester is ranges from 0 to -60° C.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aromatic dicarboxylic acid is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid and phthalic acid.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aliphatic dicarboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of C₄-C₁₂ dicarboxylic acids.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The ~~at least one~~ chewing gum as claimed in claim 14, wherein the aliphatic C₄-C₁₂ dicarboxylic acid is at least one acid selected from the group consisting of succinic acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, pimelic acid, azelaic acid and sebacic acid.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aliphatic diol is at least one diol selected from the group consisting of 2,2-dimethylpropane-1,3-diol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, tetraethylene glycol, pentaethylene glycol, hexaethylene glycol and cyclohexanedimethanol.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 11, wherein the polyester additionally contains, as a repeating unit, in condensed form, d) at least one compound having at least three groups capable of ester formation.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 17, wherein the compound having at least three groups capable of ester formation is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of tartaric acid, citric acid, malic acid, trimethylolpropane, trimethylolethane, pentaerythritol, polyethertriols, glycerol, trimesic acid, trimellitic acid, pyromellitic acid and hydroxyisophthalic acid.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 17, wherein the polyester contains ~~the~~ component d) in condensed form in an amount ~~of~~ ranging from 0.1 to 5 % by weight, based on the total weight of the polyester-forming components.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) The chewing gum as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the gum base further comprises at least one additive selected from the group consisting of resins, waxes, fats and oils.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The chewing gum as claimed in claim 11, complying with the requirements for kosher food.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A gum base, comprising at least one amorphous polyester which consists essentially of: as repeating units in condensed form

- a) at least one aromatic dicarboxylic acid,
- b) at least one aliphatic dicarboxylic acid and
- c) at least one aliphatic diol which has at least one branching point, a saturated cyclic partial structure and/or at least one ether group, and
- d) optionally at least one compound having at least three groups capable of ester formation

wherein the molar ratio of a) to b) is from 1:4 to 2:1, and

at least one additive selected from the group consisting of resins, waxes, fats and oils.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A method for producing a chewing gum as defined in claim 11, comprising:

(i) copolymerizing at least one aromatic dicarboxylic acid or an ester forming derivative thereof, at least one aliphatic dicarboxylic acid or an ester forming derivative thereof and at least one aliphatic diol which has at least one branching point, a saturated cyclic partial structure and/or at least one ether group; and optionally mixing the thus obtained polyester with at least one further additive to obtain a gum base; and

(ii) intimately mixing the gum base obtained in step (i) with at least one sweetener, at least one flavoring agent and optionally at least one further additive.

Claim 24 (New): A chewing gum comprising a gum base, which consists essentially of:

at least one amorphous polyester containing as repeating units in condensed form of

a) at least one aromatic dicarboxylic acid,

b) at least one aliphatic dicarboxylic acid, and

c) at least one aliphatic diol which has at least one branching point, a saturated cyclic partial structure and/or at least one ether group,

wherein the molar ratio of a) to b) is from 1:4 to 2:1,

the chewing gum further comprising at least one sweetener, and at least one flavoring agent, and the gum base having at least one additive selected from the group consisting of resins, waxes, fats and oils.